

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/OF/FFD:RBMCMULLEN:DE

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NEA/AFN:LMURRAY JR.

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R 302038Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS STATE 179800

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT:TUNISIAN REQUEST FOR PL 480 TITLE I WHEAT

REF: TUNIS 4493

RABAT FOR AG ATTACHE

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED DIPLOMATIC NOTE, DATED JULY 18, FROM TUNISIAN EMBASSY ALSO REQUESTING FY 76 60,000 MT WHEAT TITLE I PROGRAM. TEXTS OF EMBASSY NOTE AND DEPARTMENT'S JULY 30, REPLY, WHICH OUTLINES CURRENT STATUS TUNISIAN REQUEST, FOLLOW:

2. THE CHARGE' D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF TUNISIA PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE

UNITED STATES FOOD AID PROGRAM UNDER PL 480, TITLE I, AND TO INFORM HIM OF THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR 60,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1976 UNDER THE AFOREMENTIONED PROGRAM.

-- THE CHARGE' D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF TUNISIA HOPES THAT IN VIEW OF TUNISIA'S WHEAT DEFICIT OF 289,000 METRIC TONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR IN PROGRESS AND RECENT DIFFICULTIES IT HAS

ENCOUNTERED, AS WELL AS COSTLY AND SUBSTANTIAL IMPORTS IT MADE DURING THE LAST FISCAL YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WILL TAKE FAVORABLE ACTION ON THIS REQUEST.

-- THE CHARGE' D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF TUNISIA AVAILS HIMSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF STATE THE ASSURANCES OF HIS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

3. THE SECRETARY OF STATE PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE CHARGE' D'AFFAIRES AD INTERIM OF TUNISIA AND ACKNOWLEDGES THE RECEIPT OF HIS NOTE E.T. 934, DATED JULY 18, 1975, CONTAINING THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR 60,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT DURING UNITED STATES FISCAL YEAR 1976 UNDER PL 480 TITLE I.

-- TUNISIA WAS NOT INCLUDED IN PRELIMINARY COUNTRY ALLOCATION PROGRAMMING FOR FISCAL YEAR 1976. HOWEVER, A REVIEW OF PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION NEW ESTIMATES OF COMMODITY AVAILABILITIES AND EXPORT DEMAND IS EXPECTED SHORTLY. THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF OTHER AGENCIES CONCERNED AND WILL RECEIVE CONSIDERATION WHEN THIS REVIEW TAKES PLACE. THE GOVERNMENT OF TUNISIA WILL BE INFORMED THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN TUNIS OF ANY ACTION TAKEN IN FISCAL YEAR 1976 ON THIS REQUEST. INGERSOLL

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